OPINION 1799

Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810 and Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814 (Osteichthyes, Perciformes): conserved

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers the following generic names are hereby suppressed:
- (a) Hemipteronotus Lacépède, 1801 for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
- (b) Centronotus Lacépède, 1801, and all uses of the name Centronotus prior to the publication of Centronotus Bloch & Schneider, 1801, for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Jordan & Gilbert (1883) Gasterosteus ductor Linnaeus, 1758;
 - (b) Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Jordan & Gilbert (1883) Coryphaena novacula Linnaeus, 1758.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) ductor Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen Gasterosteus ductor (specific name of the type species of Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810);
 - (b) novacula Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen Coryphaena novacula (specific name of the type species of Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814).
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) Hemipteronotus Lacépède, 1801, as suppressed in (1)(a) above;
 - (b) Centronotus Lacépède, 1801, as suppressed in (1)(b) above.

History of Case 2842

An application for the conservation of the generic names Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810 and Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814 was received from Drs John E. Randall (Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.) and M.L. Bauchot (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France) on 2 February 1992. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 50: 277–281 (December 1993). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

It was noted on the voting paper that both the generic names Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810 (type species Gasterosteus ductor Linnaeus, 1758) for the pilotfish, and Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814 (type species Coryphaena novacula Linnaeus, 1758) for the razorfishes, were threatened by the senior subjective synonym Hemipteronotus Lacépède, 1801. H. quinquemaculatus Lacépède, 1801, the type species of Hemipteronotus, related by description to the pilotfish and by reference to both this and to the razorfish Coryphaena pentadactyla Linnaeus, 1758. Linnaeus's nominal species C. pentadactyla was itself composite, including references to both the pilotfish and the razorfish, until restricted by Gmelin ([1789]) and subsequent authors to the razorfish (currently known as Xyrichtys pentadactyla). Suppression of Hemipteronotus was proposed.

Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814 was based on three species of razorfish (pentadactyla and novacula of Linnaeus, 1758, and coerulea Bloch, 1786), all of which were originally included with the dolphins in Coryphaena Linnaeus, 1758.

Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810 had been universally adopted for the pilotfish whilst the senior synonym Centronotus Lacépède, 1801 had remained unused. Until recently vol. 3 of Lacépède's Histoire naturelle des poissons, in which a number of new names first appeared, had been thought to date from 1802 and Centronotus Lacépède had been treated as a junior homonym of Centronotus Bloch & Schneider, 1801. Jordan's (1917) statement that Centronotus Lacépède was replaced by Naucrates had been made on this basis. Roux (1973), however, demonstrated that Lacépède's work dates from October 1801; in the absence of an exact date for the publication of Bloch & Schneider's work it is deemed to have appeared in December 1801. Suppression of Centronotus Lacépède was proposed.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1994 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 50: 279–280. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1994 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 22: Bayer, Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Hahn, Heppell, Kabata, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Savage, Starobogatov, Štys, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Willink

Negative votes — 1: Holthuis.

Schuster abstained.

No votes were received from Halvorsen and Uéno.

Dupuis, Kraus and Ride were on leave of absence.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Centronotus Lacépède, 1801, Histoire naturelle des poissons, vol. 3, p. 309.

ductor, Gasterosteus, Linnaeus, 1758, Systema Naturae, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 295.

Hemipteronotus Lacépède, 1801, Histoire naturelle des poissons, vol. 3, p. 214.

Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810, Caratteri di alcuni nuovi generi e nuove specie di animali e piante della Sicilia ..., p. 43.

novacula, Coryphaena, Linnaeus, 1758, Systema Naturae, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 262.

Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814, Bulletin des Sciences, par la Société Philomatique de Paris, 1814: 87.

The following is the reference for the designation of Gasterosteus ductor Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the nominal genus Naucrates Rafinesque, 1810, and Coryphaena novacula Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the nominal genus Xyrichtys Cuvier, 1814:

Jordan, D.S. & Gilbert, C.H. 1883. Bulletin of the United States National Museum, 16: 443, 605 (respectively).